K. Gt. Brit. & Ireland. James I. Reg.

By the King.

A Proclamation for the search and apprehension of certaine Pirates.

WHereas it hath appeared vnto vs by sundry credible informations and certificats frō forreine parts, That Richard Gifford Captaine of a ship or Flyboat, lately called The Fortune, & Richard Lux Master of a ship called The Hopewell, William Mellon, Humfrey Rastoll, Thomas Better, Robert Gyles, Iohn Thomas, Iohn Burrage, Baldwine Barber, Henry Radclife, Iohn Banister, William Smith, With diuers others their Complices, and Associats, seruing as Mariners or Souldiers in the said Ships, haue vnder colour of friendship and peaceable Traffique, committed most fowle outrages, murders, spoyles and Depredations within the Streits, and Mediterranean Seas, as well within the Ports as without, to the great offence of all our friends, to the extreame losse and hurt of our Merchants trading those parts, both in their persons and goods, and to the great displeasure of God and men; Wee of our Princely care for the administration of Justice (the maine pillar of our Estate) doe with no lesse zeale, aswell for the satisfaction of forreine Princes, as for the example of others in like cases offending, intend to prosecute them, and all their Abettors, Complices and Accessaries with the greatest seueritie of our Lawes in that case prouided:

And therefore we will and straightly command all and euery our Officers and louing Subiects, that immediatly after the sight of this present Proclamation, they and euery of them doe make diligent search and enquirie in all places as well exempt as not exempt, for the sayd persons, and all and euery of them, and them, or any of them so found, to apprehend and commit to the next Gaole, there to be deteined vntill our high Admirall, or his Lieutenant the Iudge of the high Court of the Admiraltie, vpon notice giuen vnto either of them of the persons so committed, shall take order in that behalfe.

And moreouer our Pleasure is, That no person or persons whatsoeuer, shall wittingly or wilfully receiue, conceale, harbour, entertaine or lodge the sayd Pyrates and Murtherers, or any of them, or any of their said Complices or Associates into their house or houses, after the sight or knowledge of this Proclamation (knowing them by pregnant circumstances, credible informations or otherwise to be the persons before named) vpon paine to euery such person and persons so receiuing, concealing, harbouring, entertaining or lodging any of the sayd Pirates and Murtherers, or any of their Complices, of death and forfeiture of all their Lands, goods and chattels, according to the Lawes and Statutes in that case prouided.

Giuen at our Manour of Greenwich the thirteenth day of Iune, in the fourth yeere of our Reigne of Great Britaine, France and Ireland.

God saue the King.

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